

Take over of bauxite mines

8110. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take over the bauxite mines; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of the very large magnitude of our bauxite resources and the use of the mineral in a large number of small and large industries in the private sector, it is not considered necessary for the Government to take over the bauxite mines in the country.

Plan to build new township

8111. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan under consideration of Government for building up new townships or expansion of the existing towns to stop the growth of slums in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Growth of slums, particularly in the major metropolitan cities, is linked to large scale migration of rural population to such cities. The scheme of Integrated Development of small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) aims at development of small and medium towns so that they can act as growth and service centres for the rural hinterland and check migration to the metropolitan centres. Till 31.3.1985, Rs. 63.57 crores were released to the various States/UTs for development 235 towns. The 7th Plan envisages coverage of 102 more towns. An outlay of Rs. 38 crores have been provided for new schemes as well on-going schemes from 6th Plan.

Export of farm produce

8112. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any demand from the Corporate Sector to establish 100 per cent export farms to minimise the foreign trade gap;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the extent to which it will affect the land Ceiling Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). There had been some suggestions of general nature made by some agencies, regarding Corporate farming and/or the Export Oriented Units being allowed to run captive farms. However, consideration of proposals in this regard would involve a number of critical factors like the extent of land required (whether on lease or otherwise) the land ceiling laws and the views of the State Governments concerned, other economic criteria etc.

(c) The extent to which such proposals will affect the land Ceilings Act will depend upon the nature of the proposals, the extent of land required, the availability of the land, the existing Ceiling Act etc.

Gas leakage in Rourkela Steel Plant

8113. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a leakage of gas took place in Rourkela Steel Plant in December, 1985;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed and injured due to the leakage of gas;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made to know the causes of the leakage and if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(d) whether responsibility for leakage has been fixed; and